

THE NIGHT CAP

Published monthly by the San Antonio Central Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous in the interest of greater unity of members in local and South-west Area groups.

Address all communications to :
"THE NIGHT CAP" Lexington Bldg.
109 Lexington Ave., Suite 215
San Antonio, Texas 78205 226-2523

VOLUME SEVEN

APRIL 1979

NUMBER 12

DID YOU CARRY THE MESSAGE TODAY?

How often do we get lazy or complacent about carrying the message and think to ourselves "let George do it"? I have done this and perhaps, at the time, I was not lazy nor complacent, but felt inadequate to do so. If this is so, what can we do to keep from feeling inadequate about carrying that all important message? It is my thinking that if we try to remember what was said to us when we first "got the message," we will find it most difficult to recall those very important words that made us want to grasp the AA Program and hang on to it.

When my "messenger" appeared, I was so confused and run-dum that all I really can remember her saying, over and over again, was "you have to go 24 hours without a drink before you can go to a meeting." I believe that my messenger's appearance, self-confidence, actions, and the fact that she did not "preach" to me, nor did she give me advice on how to quit drinking, is what actually impressed me and helped me to receive the message. I do remember asking her what AA was and her reply was that if I really wanted to know, I would have to attend an AA meeting.

In my early years in the Program, I considered myself a 12-Step "caller" but became very discouraged because none of my "callees" quit drinking! An old timer assured me that just by being sober was the best way to carry the message. He also reminded me that we are only asked to "carry the message" and not to sober any one up. So, in essence, if we are available to go when someone calls for help, if we can just listen to what they have to say instead of worrying about what we are going to say, we will be much more successful in this 12-Step endeavor.

Have you ever had anyone come up to you after a meeting and say something like this--"I heard you talk 2 years ago and I can't tell you now just what you said--but, you really helped me and I have been sober ever since." Didn't you feel kind of stupid because you couldn't remember what you had said 2 years ago?

All of this boils down to the fact that we do not choose the person that we help; our Higher Power chooses that person for us and most of the time we never even know who that person is. Only by being sober ourselves and being available, not just for 12-Step calls, but for any AA function, can we be assured and can say "Yes, I carried the message today."

Dee S., Editor

MY BROTHER

Is this the brother that I knew, whose bloated face, hangs haggardly lined? Is this the brother that I knew whose sightless eyes give anguished cries? Is this the brother that I knew whose trembling hands clasp a fluid amber, and suddenly are stilled? Would that I could take the lines and misery from that face and shape it handsomely again. Would that I could make those tearful sodden eyes, bright and light again. Would that I could clasp those trembling hands and still them with my love. My Lord, who once gave life and breath to him, help my brother live once more, even if he has to die.

Laura L.

AROUND THE AREA

LET'S ALL REMEMBER AA's 34th Anniversary in San Antonio, Thursday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the San Pedro Presbyterian Church, 1605 Timber Oaks.

GRUPO MONTANA ESPANOL. A new Spanish speaking only group in Seguin meets at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church classrooms, Fridays at 8 p.m. For more information, contact Adrian in Seguin: 512-379-7968.

SALVATION ARMY. A new Beginner Discussion Meeting, Fridays at 8 p.m. in the Staff Dining Room, 1324 S. Flores. The Wednesday night meetings will continue as usual at 7:30 p.m. Local support of both meetings is badly needed. If you can help, please contact Marjory at 223-6877.

MARYMONT GROUP will celebrate its 4th Anniversary on April 24, 1979, at 8:15 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Reconciliation, 8900 Starcrest. Come on out for guest speakers, birthday cake, and coffee.

SANTA FE GROUP. Everyone is invited to help celebrate its 10th Anniversary on April 27, 1979, at the Santa Fe Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 1108 Brunswick. Roland R. will chair the meeting beginning at 7 p.m. A Mexican dinner and dance will follow.

SUNRISE GROUP. A new meeting at the USAA Building, Classroom 101, on Thursdays from 6:45 to 7:15 a.m. (That's right--a 30-minute morning meeting! What a great way to start the day!) For more information contact Bill at 342-2018.

CORRECTION!!! The Randolph Fellowship Group meets in Chapel Annex, Room 13, located by the Main Chapel (just inside RAFB), on Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. BOTH MEN and WOMEN are welcomed to this closed discussion. For more information contact Joan at 658-6931. (Please excuse the errors published last month. Editor)

"When we feel guilty, lost, alone, and afraid, we are experiencing the results of spiritual death..."

Author unknown

CONVENTIONS/CONFERENCES:

38TH OKLAHOMA STATE CONFERENCE--May 18, 19, and 20, 1979, in Oklahoma City at Skirvin Plaza. Write: Oklahoma State Conference Chairman, Box 20297, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73156. Room reservations at Skirvin Plaza, Box 1677, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101, MUST be made PRIOR to May 1, 1979.

* * * * *

HOSPITAL ZONE:

VILLA ROSA's Tuesday evening Open Speakers' Meetings. Groups responsible for the month of April are as follows:

April 3 and 17 The Haven Group

April 10 and 24 The Audubon Group

VA HOSPITAL GROUP holds Beginners' Discussion meetings every Thursday at 8:15 p.m., Room E-136, at the Audie Murphy VA Hospital.

PARK NORTH GROUP holds Open Discussion Meetings on Wednesday and Friday at 8 p.m. in the basement cafeteria of Park North General Hospital, 4330 Vance Jackson.

* * * * *

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS:

GOLIAD GROUP, 537 Avondale, will hold its regular monthly dinner, featuring barbequed chicken and sausage, on Sunday, April 15 (3rd Sunday of each month) at 6 p.m. BBQ will be followed by an Open Speakers' Meeting at 7:30. All other Sunday meetings are held at 8:15 p.m.

GROUP 12, 102 Thames, will hold its monthly dinner and games on Saturday, April 28 (last Saturday of each month) at 7 p.m.

FRONTIER GROUP, at the ARC on Southton Road, will hold its regular monthly dance on Saturday, April 28 (last Saturday of each month), immediately following the Open Speakers' Meeting which begins at 8:15 p.m.

24-HOUR SERVICE GROUP, 1203 Fredericksburg Road, will hold its regular monthly dinner on Sunday, April 29 (last Sunday of each month), at 1 p.m.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF CSO will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3, at the Central Service Office, 109 Lexington Avenue, Suite 215.

THE CSOC AND DISTRICT 1 meeting will be held on Sunday, April 8, at 7 p.m. at Club 12, 102 Thames.

* * * * *

"Every day is a gift I receive from Heaven. Let me enjoy today that which it bestows on me. It belongs not more to the young than to the old, and tomorrow belongs to no one."

PIC: 2/20/79 3/20/79

Joan B. spoke to classes at Ursuline High School.

Ed B. spoke to classes at St. Patrick's School

* * * * *

STATISTICS: 2/20/79 3/20/79

AA	208
Alanon	42
Information	177
Students	10
PIC	6

Total Inquiries 443

* * * * *

IN MEMORIAM

Bill Mahoney--March 1979

TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS, WE EXTEND SINCERE SYMPATHY AND OUR PRAYERS THAT THEIR BEREAVEMENT MAY BE TEMPERED BY REFLECTIVE THOUGHT UPON THE HAPPINESS SHARED.

* * * * *

"How can a seed become a tree?
How can a bulb become a flower?
What made earth, the sky, the
Stars?
A Higher Power?"

Anonymous

* * * * *

"When we retire at night, we constructively review our day. Were we resentful, selfish, dishonest, or afraid? Do we owe an apology? Have we kept something to ourselves which should be discussed with another person at once? Were we kind and loving toward all? What could we have done better? Were we thinking of ourselves most of the time? Or were we thinking of what we could do for others, of what we could pack into the stream of life? But we must be careful not to drift into worry, remorse, or morbid reflection, for that would diminish our usefulness to others."

Excerpt from the Book,
Alcoholics Anonymous (page 86)
(2nd Edition, 1955)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

YOU could be that VIP with whom a suffering alcoholic makes first contact! If you are interested in working with alcoholic patients in local hospitals and detoxification centers, please get your name on the VOLUNTEER LIST that the Central Service Office is compiling. You may be asked to lead beginners' meetings, make 12-Step calls, or to serve as a temporary sponsor for an alcoholic who is leaving a hospital or halfway house. What a great opportunity to serve your fellow alcoholic! Call 226-2523 TODAY, for more details.

YOU could be that person who plants the first seed in a potential alcoholic's brain! None of us (or very few, at least) are professional speakers or even graduates of Toastmasters! But...we know more about alcoholism than anyone else. Why? Because we've been there!! We know the danger signs--we have had the experiences--we know where to go for help! IF you can help, even occasionally, please volunteer your services as a speaker for the Public Information Committee by calling CSO, 226-2523, or John H., PIC Chairman, 828-3742.

* * * * *

\$\$\$\$ HOW ABOUT JOINING THE BUCK A MONTH CLUB?

\$\$\$\$ IT DOESN'T HURT A BIT! \$\$\$\$

* * * * *

"This time, like all times, is a very good one if we but know what to do with it."

Emerson

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE - SAN ANTONIO
RECEIVED MARCH 15, 1979

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>MAR.</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>MAR.</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>
Alamo Heights	0	30.00	Park North (M)	15.00	15.00
Audubon	10.00	20.00	Park North (F)	0	40.00
Broadway	0	35.00	Randolph Fellowship	0	0
Callaghan	30.00	30.00	Reality	0	0
Downtown	0	90.00	Reliance	6.00	6.00
Fellowship	0	0	Sahara	0	0
First Step	0	0	SASH	0	10.00
Ft. Sam Houston	40.00	60.00	Santa Fe	0	0
Frontier	0	10.00	Serenity	15.00	45.00
Goliad	0	0	Sharing	0	25.00
Group 12	75.00	225.00	Southwest Loop	0	30.00
Grupo Del Sol	0	24.00	Spiritual Life	0	0
Grupo Unidad	10.00	20.00	Stepping Stones	25.00	100.00
Highlands	0	40.00	Sunset	15.00	45.00
Hope	0	0	The Haven	0	40.00
Kingshoro	15.00	15.00	Triangle	0	0
Laurel Heights	15.00	30.00	24 Hour	15.00	30.00
Marymont	0	0	Universal City	0	75.00
Northeast	0	20.00	VA Hospital	10.00	40.00
N. San Pedro	20.00	80.00	Valley Hi	30.00	60.00
Northwest	20.00	60.00	Villa Rosa	25.00	75.00
Northwood	0	0	Wesley	0	6.00
Open Door	0	60.00	Windcrest	15.00	45.00
			Young People	0	40.00

21 Groups.....\$441.00
BUCK-A-MONTH.....\$192.82

AREA

Bandera	0	0	Lytle	0	0
Bridge (N.R.)	10.00	10.00	New Braunfels	0	0
Canyon Lake	0	20.00	Pearsall	25.00	25.00
Floresville	0	10.00	Pleasanton	0	0
Fredericksburg	0	12.00	Seguin	0	0
Hill Country Grp.	0	0	Women's Serenity	0	20.00
Kerrville	0	0			

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
John C. for Mother-in-Law
Joan B. for Bill Mahoney

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Southwest Texas Area Conference
Jan G.

BUCK-A-MONTH CONTRIBUTION FORM

Central Service Office-109 Lexington Ave., Suite 215, San Antonio, Tx. 78205
Please enter my contribution to the BUCK-A-MONTH for _____ months.
Donation is enclosed on the basis of \$1.00 per month.

NAME _____ STREET _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

